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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WALTHAM HOLY CROSS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ending December 31st., 1972

WALTHAM HOLY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1972

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Mrs. J.W. Hewins

Dep. Chairman: Councillor Mrs. J.A. Taylor
Councillor D.W. Berry
Councillor Mrs. D.G. Berry
Councillor Mrs. M. Bird
Councillor K.W. Meakin
Councillor Mrs. E.A. Webster

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL Councillor Mrs. J.A. Taylor

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. A. Afnan L.A.H. D.P.H. M.D. D.L.O.
6 Highbridge Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. G. Blakey D.M.A. M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H. (1,2,4,7)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. R.M. Cookson M.A.P.H.I. (6)

MEAT INSPECTORS

Mr. E. Salway A.M.R.S.H., M.A.M.I. (3)
Mr. J. Fleming M.M.I.A., M.A.M.I. (5)
Mr. H. Benyon A.M.R.S.H., M.A.M.I. (3)

- 1). Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors' Education Board
- 2). Certificate of the Royal Society of Health of Inspector of Meat and other foods,
- 3). Certificate of the Royal Society of Health Inspector of Meat
- 4). Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Smoke Inspection
- 5). Royal Sanitary Association (Scotland) Certificate of Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
- 6). Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors' Education Board
- 7). Diploma in Municipal Administration

CLERK Miss. D. Elsom

PART TIME CLERK. Mrs, G. Whatling.

RODENT OPERATIVE. Mr. T.S. Driver.

To the Chairman and Members of the Waltham Holy Cross
Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure to submit my report on the annual health services of the district for the year 1972 - 1973.

The mid year population of the district was 14,590. During the year there were 249 live births and 120 deaths.

Public interest in promotion of health has been steadily growing over the years and in many ways.

The life expectation at birth has increased by 2.4 years for men and 3.9 years for women since the introduction of the National Health Service. The death rates at ages 5 - 34 in Britain are among the lowest in Europe. Some campaigns of health promotion offer immediate gains. Vaccinations in the 2nd half of 1970 and into 1971 was probably responsible for the lowest incidence of measles yet reported in any year.

The drive to promote fluoridation of water supplies and so reduce the extent of dental decay in young children is still blocked by a vocal minority on false and unscientific grounds.

It may be that some future findings will show that if another additive were used in soft water supplies, the incidence of Coronary Thrombosis would be reduced. Should this prove to be so one wonders whether the same resistance would be encountered.

T.B. is still responsible for far more deaths than any other notifiable disease. The immigration from countries with greater prevalence, is likely to make the British record inferior to that of countries such as Iceland. Mass radiography is not now available in case findings as formerly. Intensive search for individual sources of infections becomes increasingly important.

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, confirmed their recommendation that vaccinations should be offered to all girls between their 11th and 14th birthdays so that they could be protected against Rubella before they reached child bearing age.

In the field of vaccination and immunisation the most important development was the decision, taken on the advice of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation to cease recommending routine vaccination against smallpox in the second year.

The reasons for this decision were a). the encouraging progress of the World Health Organisation's smallpox eradication programme in reducing the risk of imported disease and b). the speed and accuracy in diagnosis.

Considerable progress has been made in recent years in the reduction of air pollution. Particular attention has been given to lead pollution, following the discovery of raised level of lead in dust and on leaves in the vicinity of an East London lead works.

An epidemiological survey of young children and their mothers has revealed an increased lead intake particularly in the children living nearest to the works, and lead containing dusts brought home in clothing of workers.

Recently much attention has been focused on atmospheric pollution by motor vehicles. These emit a variety of noxious gases including carbon monoxide and nitric acid. Carbon monoxide is taken up by blood cells preferentially to oxygen, and is a tissue poison. It is present in just significant quantities in the blood of such people as policeman and taxi drivers who are exposed to heavy traffic, but here again the effect of cigarette smoking is much more important than air pollution. The dose from one cigarette is about one hundred times greater than the heaviest air pollution. Higher blood carbon monoxide levels are found in smokers than non-smokers, irrespective of atmospheric exposure, and a heavy smoker who goes into an area of dense traffic will in fact lose carbon monoxide to the atmosphere, unless he smokes more cigarettes. Similar consideration apply to nitric acid.

Smokers do not only pollute their own atmosphere, but that of other people also, and in this respect cigarette smokers are anti-social. "Second-hand smoking" of other people's tobacco is a potent cause of symptoms in asthmatics.

Atmospheric pollution is a factor in the causations of much chest disease, it is by no means the most important factor and it is one which is being gradually eliminated. How much of a contrast this is with cigarette smoking which is a major factor in the causation of chronic bronchitis and lung cancer, which are responsible for about 70,000 deaths per year, in this country, and about which there is apparently much less public concern. While the environment is currently a popular crusading issue, and rightly so, we are in danger of ignoring the far greater menace of cigarette smoking, which is the major public health problem in Britian now.

Nevertheless, a welcome downward trend in the consumption of tobacco, particularly in the form of cigarettes is very encouraging.

	<u>All tobacco produced</u> <u>(Million lb)</u>	<u>Manufactured weight of tobacco</u> <u>(Cigarettes only)</u>
1968	253.4	220.2
1969	249.3	216.5
1970	247.4	215.4
1971	236.8	204.1
1972 (to Sept)	184.7	161.8


In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Public Health Inspectors and the Clerical staff for their valuable assistance and support.

A. Afnan.

Medical Officer of Health

		Local Authority Area			England and Wales (Total)
		Males	Females	Total	
Estimated mid-year home population				14,590	49,028,900
Live births	Total	125	124	249	725,405
	Legitimate	123	117	240	662,907
	Illegitimate	2	7	9	62,498
Stillbirths	Total	1	1	2	3,794
	Legitimate	1	1	2	7,846
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	948
Total live and stillbirths	Total	126	125	251	734,199
	Legitimate	124	118	242	670,753
	Illegitimate	2	7	9	63,446
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	Total	2	-	2	12,494
	Legitimate	2	-	2	11,177
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,317
Under 4 weeks of age	Total	1	-	1	3,373
	Legitimate	1	-	1	7,503
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	870
Under 1 week of age	Total	1	-	1	7,142
	Legitimate	1	-	1	6,365
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	777
Deaths - all ages		63	52	120	591,907

	Local Authority area	England and Wales
Live birth rates etc.,		
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	17.1	14.8
Area comparability factor	.84	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.14	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.97	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	4	9
Stillbirth rate		
Stillbirths per 1,000/live and still births	8	12
Infant mortality rates		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	8	17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year/1,000 leg. live births	8	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year/1,000 illegitimate live births	-	21
Neonatal mortality rate		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	4	12
Early neonatal mortality rate		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	4	10
Perinatal mortality rate		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	12	22
Deaths, rates etc., all ages		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	8.2	12.1
Area comparability factor	1.47	1.00
Local adjusted rate	12.1	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.00	1.00



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CAUSES OF DEATH AS GIVEN BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL
FOR THE YEAR 1972

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	12	1	13
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3	3
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasm.	4	1	5
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
Other Endocrine etc., Diseases	1	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Diseases	1	1	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	1	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	11	19	30
Other forms of Heart Disease	2	2	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	5	7	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	3	3
Pneumonia	7	2	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	1	6
Other Disease of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
Other Disease of Digestive System	2	2	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Disease of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1	2
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All other Accidents	1	-	1
	<hr/>		
TOTAL:	68	52	120
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ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICE

All personal Health Service for the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District are administered on an area basis and come within the West Essex Health Area. The Area Health Office is situated at Root House Annexe, The Stow, Harlow. (Tele. Harlow 25331) and all correspondence should be addressed to the Area Medical Officer.

Health Visiting/School Nursing Service

At the end of the year three Health Visitors serving the District were Miss. F. Fear, Miss. I. Geiberle and Mrs. J. Haynes. The Health Visitors are based at the Essex County Health Services Clinic, The Cedars, Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey, (Tele. Waltham Cross 22830) and can usually be contacted there each morning between 9 and 10 a.m. If the Health Visitor is not available messages can be left with one of the Clerical Assistants. Health Visitors at this clinic are assisted in their duties by a part-time state registered nurse.

The Health Visitor who is a trained nurse visits persons in their homes and gives advice in the clinic as to the care of young children - persons suffering from illness - expectant and nursing mothers, the elderly, and as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection and other duties as may be assigned to her. In the School Health Service the Health Visitor acts as school nurse and is the principal link between the home, the school, the family doctor and other agencies, particularly on matters relating to the health of a child at school.

District Nurse and Midwifery

The Nursing Staff carrying out these services and resident in the area are:

Miss. E. Mullock, District Nurse/Midwife

23 Farnhill Road, Waltham Abbey.

Tele: WX 22917

Miss. B.F. Dyke, District Nurse/Midwife

6a Fountain Place, Waltham Abbey.

Tele: WX 33666

Miss. D. Durell, District Nurse/Midwife

22 Buxton Road, Upshire, Waltham Abbey.

Tele: WX 22421

The following services are provided by the County Council at the Clinic at Sewardstone Road.

Chiropody

Three sessions a week for the elderly and physically handicapped.
A domiciliary service is also provided for patients who are housebound and unable to reach the clinic.

Cervical Cytology

Sessions are arranged according to demand. There is no waiting list

Dental Service

This service is mainly for school children. The Dental Officer periodically visits the schools in the district to carry out dental inspection.

Schoolchildrens Clinic

A school Medical Officer is in attendance at regular intervals and appointments can be arranged on application to the clinic, Head Teacher or the Area Officer.

Child Health Clinic

These sessions are very well attended. At the present time three sessions a week are being held with a Medical Officer and Health Visitor in attendance. Vaccinations and immunisations are also carried out at these sessions.

School Health Service

The selective system of medical inspection of pupils continued unchanged and during the year 578 pupils in attendance at schools in the District were examined by the Medical Officers of the Local Authority.

As in previous years, B.C.G. vaccination was offered to pupils aged 12 years and 142 were vaccinated.

Vaccination against Rubella was offered to girls in the 11-14 years age group.

Attendances at anti-natal clinics.

Ante-natal	1007
Post natal	NIL

Attendances at child welfare clinics

Infants under 1 year) 5483
Children 1-5 years	

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Dysentery	2	-	-
Measles	14	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-

Tuberculosis

4 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

Diphtheria

No cases were reported during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes

1) Smallpox

22 primary vaccinations were performed and 9 persons were re-vaccinated.

2) D.P.T. (Triple vaccine against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Tetanus

336 primary immunisations and 51 boosting doses were given.

3) Diphtheria/Tetanus

16 primary immunisations 2 4 boosting doses were given.

4) Tetanus

5 immunisations and 7 boosting doses were given during th year.

5) Polionyelitis Vaccinations

Oral Vaccine

Immunising Course of 3 doses 345

Fourth (boosting) dose 230

6) Measles Vaccinations

213 primary vaccinations were performed

7) Rubella

48 vaccinations were performed

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Disease	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Scarlet Fever	5	1	5	2	3
Dysentery	3	2	2	1	2
Measles	7	57	178	23	14
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	-	-
Infective Jaundice	13	3	-	5	-
T.B. Respiratory	2	1	1	1	4
Others	-	1	-	3	-
Food Poisoning	1	3	-	-	-

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS

	<u>First time seen</u>	<u>Total Visits</u>
up to 5 years	2321	3355

CASES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES

Number of cases attended	53
Visits made by Home Nurses	4283

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my second annual report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department.

Work within the department increased in relation to environmental matters. The Woollard St./Greenfield Street area was declared a General Improvement Area and the Number 5 and 6 Smoke Control Areas were confirmed and will come into operation in July 1973.

Survey work also commenced on the Number 7 Smoke Control Area and further emphasis has been placed on surveying and trying to encourage the improvement of older houses within the district.

Work also increased in relation to the inspection of food premises and places of work.

1972 was the year in which the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm. This Conference reflected the growing concern by many thinking people on the environmental hazards facing the world today and in the future. Indeed, we have seen growing national problems arising in the fields of housing, pollution and social stress.

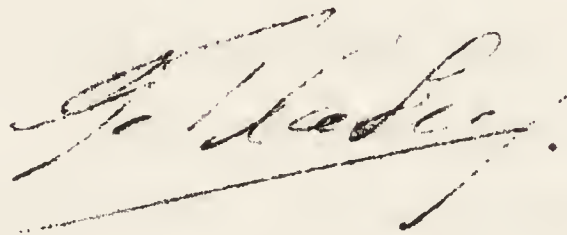
As the population increases and we become more and more a consumer nation, environmental hazards exert their effects more subtly than by the straightforward transmission of communicable diseases. These hazards include physical, chemical and psychosocial factors.

It is becoming of crucial importance to try to define as clearly as possible and then to control these adverse effects on the human environment.

With the re-organisation of Local Government an opportunity now exists for local authorities to be more flexible in their approach to environmental health. Recently there has been great emphasis on the need for corporate management within local government. I believe there is also a need for greater emphasis in ensuring that the needs and wishes of the community are fulfilled and their environment is protected.

Integrated surveillance and monitoring techniques are needed to show what is and what is not known about the environmental hazards facing the community. Armed with this knowledge we can prevent the quality of life being impaired and wherever possible improved.

Finally I wish to acknowledge the co-operation and support of the Chairman, Members and Officers, in this and other Departments, for their help and assistance in enabling me to carry out my duties.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Blakey', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

G.Blakey. D.M.A., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector

INSPECTION OF THE AREA - STATISTICS

Inspection of the Area

A general duty is placed upon the Council to ensure their District is inspected from time to time in relation to environmental health functions. Inspections made by the Officers of the Department resulted in ~~448~~2 visits. 166 complaints relating to a variety of matters were also received and dealt with.

Summary of Inspections

Housing

Defects Public Health Acts	18
Defects Housing Acts	38
Qualification Certificates	36
Overcrowding	1
Multiple Occupation	2
Improvement Grants	23
Surveys	123
Caravans	20
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	261

Food. & Drugs Act

Bakers	4
Butchers	14
Cafes & Restaurants	14
Confectioners - sweets	7
flour	4
Chemists	-
Dairies	54
Fishmongers	8
Food Hawkers	14
Market Stalls	9

Food & Drugs Act (cont.)

Greengrocers	8
Grocers & Provisions	28
Hospitals	-
Imported Foods	46
Licensed premises	57
Unsound food	33
Schools	4
Slaughterhouses	820
Factories - food	2
canteen	10
Sampling - ice cream	-
" milk	1
" water - mains	5
" swimming pools	5
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	1147
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ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Smoke control areas	159
Smoke & dust nuisances - industrial	24
Smoke & dust nuisances - domestic	3
Smoke observations	7
Noise - domestic	2
Noise - industrial	30
Noise - commercial	1
Fumes - industrial	8
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	234
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Infectious Diseases

Investigations	10
Samples	29
Other	<u>2</u>
	<u>41</u>

Safety Health & Welfare

A).	<u>Offices, shops and railway premises</u>	
	Offices	14
	Shops	27
	Wholesale premises	4
	Catering establishments	49
	Accident investigation	1
B).	Factories - premises	15
	- outworkers	7
	- other	-
C).	Agricultural	5
		<u>122</u>

Pestology

Rodents	2383
Wasps	16
Other	<u>41</u>
	<u>2440</u>

Miscellaneous

Petroleum	48
Drainage	65
Accumulations	15
Poisonous wastes	15
Smells	7
Ditches & ponds	7
Stables & piggeries	5
Filthy or verminous premises	9
Animal boarding establishments	29
Pet Animals Act	-
Waste food plant	5
Scrap metal	1
Other	31
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	237
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GRAND TOTAL : 4,482
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HOUSING

The total number of Council houses at 31st December, was 1,467 which comprise the following types of accommodation :-

Bed/sitting bungalows	24
1 bedroom bungalows	53
1 bedroom flats	177
2 bedroom flats/maisonettes	163
3 bedroom flats/maisonettes	20
2 bedroom houses	379
3 bedroom houses	614
4 bedroom houses	34
5 bedroom houses	3
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	1,467
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The number of applicants rehoused from the housing list was 46 which included no applicants from unfit dwellings and 3 applicants on medical grounds. The total number of applicants on the housing waiting list as at 31st December, 1972 was 362.

Slums and Older Housing

In 1972 the Secretary of State for the Environment called upon local authorities to join in a decisive drive on slums and older housing. The objective being to ensure that within a decade no one shall be required to live in an unfit or substandard house.

In 1967 the Department of the Environment with the aid of a team of Public Health Inspectors carried out a sample housing survey. A follow up survey was carried out in 1972. This survey revealed that there had been a big improvement in the housing stock in England and Wales. The total number of unfit houses being reduced by 1.8 million (11.7% of the total stock) to 1.2 million (7.3%). The number of houses lacking one or more of the basic amenities had also fallen substantially from 3.9 million to 2.9 million.

Thus in September 1971 there were some 600,000 fewer unfit houses than 4 years previously, yet the annual rate of slum clearance was approximately 70,000 per annum. The explanation for this large discrepancy being that some 300,000 houses had been improved by extensive repair and reconditioning.

The conclusion one draws from these figures are that housing improvement, housing disrepair and slum clearance are closely linked. When one considers the present high price of building new houses, to the cost of improving a substandard house which when improved will give a minimum life of 30 years, there is no doubt that wholesale slum clearance should be regarded as a last resort procedure. A positive approach must be placed on improvement and repair of the older housing stock and thus prevent the unnecessary demolition of property which inevitably results in social disruption of communities, as well as the high cost of building new homes.

Waltham Abbey

In this district there are some 3,800 dwellings of which approximately 1,800 are pre-war. Of these older houses 160 are Council houses and can be improved. Indeed the Council are now actively engaged in carrying out improvements to the Council houses situated in Harold Crescent and the Crooked Mile area and have agreed a programme to improve all these houses by 1975.

Survey

In a pilot survey carried out of the older housing in the area it was noted that the majority of dwellings were quite sound, although some had obviously been badly maintained and were deteriorating. Nevertheless, the majority of these houses could be improved quite readily and would provide reasonable living accommodation for a further 30 years or more if properly maintained.

Needs and Wishes of the People.

The survey revealed that 54% of improved houses were tenanted, 61% of these tenants would like to have their houses improved and would be prepared to pay any additional rent required. Of the owner occupied houses again 61% would like to improve their houses if they had the capital available to do so.

The majority of people who did not want to have their houses improved were the elderly who felt either

- A). They could not cope with the upset of having their house improved or
- B). They could not afford to pay for the actual cost of improvements or alternatively the greater rent which they would have to pay.

Improvement of Private Dwellings

During the year the Council declared the Greenfield Street/Mcollard Street area covering some 200 older houses a General Improvement Area. When taking this action the Council also decided that where a person had only a low income arrangements should be made to assist such owners to improve or repair their property by way of a loan the principal being recoverable when the property was sold, the owner only being charged on the interest until such time as the principal could be repaid.

The Council also agreed to purchase an unimproved house which it is hoped to open as a showhouse during 1973. The idea being to show people living in similar houses how this type of accommodation can be improved and repaired.

In addition to work being done in the Improvement Area a detailed survey is now being carried out of all the older housing in the area and a register is being compiled of all unimproved houses.

i) Standard Grants. These grants are given as a matter of right (except in General Improvement Areas). Half the approved expenditure up to £200 can be obtained by owners of houses, towards the cost of works required to improve an existing dwelling, by the provision of basic standard amenities i.e. a bath, wash hand basin, sink, hot and cold water supply and the provision of an internal water closet.

6 such grants were given during the year amounting to a total of £257.50 .

ii). Improvement Grants. These grants are made available at the discretion of the Council, towards the cost of works required for either the provision of dwellings (e.g. the conversion of flats or houses or other buildings), or for the improvement of existing dwellings other than by the mere provision of basic amenities. This means that where a dwelling lacks amenities and is in need of other repairs or improvements, a grant can be given. The maximum grant available is half the approved expenditure up to £1,000. The dwelling upon completion of works, should, other than in exceptional circumstances, have a minimum life of 30 years. Once improved the dwelling, broadly speaking, should be up to post war standard of property.

The number of properties improved during the year was 13 with a total of £4,955 - 75p being given in grant aid.

Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act 1972, enabled rents to be regulated in certain dwellings or improved. Landlords could apply to the Council for the issue of a Qualification Certificate to enable them to apply to the Rent Officer for the tenancy to be converted to a regulated tenancy and for a fair rent to be determined. In addition the Council could issue a Provisional Qualification Certificate when they were satisfied that the proposed improvements would bring the property up to the required standard.

During the year the following applications were received and approved:

	<u>Qualification Certificates</u>	<u>Provisional Qualifications Certificates</u>
Applications received	4	1
Applications granted	8	NIL
Applications refused	NIL	NIL

The Housing Act 1969 with regard to Qualification Certificates, has now been largely superseded by the Housing Finance Act 1972. The effect of this act will be that as from the 1st January 1973, tenancies which are at the moment controlled tenancies can be converted to regulated tenancies depending on the rateable value on the 31st March 1972. By July 1975, all dwellings unless they are unfit for human habitation, can become regulated and landlords will be empowered to increase the rents accordingly whether they are with or without the basic amenities.

Houses unfit for Human Habitation

During the year it was necessary to place an Undertaking not to relet on one property which was considered unfit. The owner has agreed to improve this property with the aid of a grant. In addition 9 formal and 10 informal notices were served to repair houses.

Moveable Dwellings - Licensed Sites

There are 12 licensed sites comprising 6 individual, 5 multiple and 1 holiday. These accommodate some 574 moveable dwellings. The conditions approved by the Council are above the Ministry Model Standards. It is envisaged that eventually all residential caravans will be provided internally, with all basic amenities together with an adequate drainage system and mains electricity. 20 visits and inspections were carried out resulting in 1 informal notice being served on a licensed owner regarding breach of license conditions.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955

Food premises in the area are listed below, together with the number of inspections carried out and notices served.

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Notices Served</u>
Wholesalers	1	4	-
Slaughterhouses	2	40	11
Food Factories	1	2	-
Schools	6	4	2
Licensed Premises	33	57	40
Hospitals	2	-	-
Grocery & Provisions	35	28	12
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	8	8	6
General Market Stalls	2	9	-
Mobile Stalls	2	14	4
Fishmongers (wet and fried)	3	8	1
Dairies	3	4	-
Chemists	2	-	-
Confectioners	9	7	3
Cafes, Restaurants & Canteens	10	14	8
Butchers	7	14	11
Bakers	1	4	1

ANAYLSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Unsatisfactory facilities for washing hands	22
Inadequate first aid equipment	21
Premises not vermin proof	8
Inadequate swill/refuse facilities	7
Unhygienic practices	27
Risk of contamination of food	6
Unhygienic/unsatisfactory equipment	18
Inadequate locker accomodation	5
Unhygienic personnel	5

Anaylsis of Contraventions

Defective walls & floors etc.,	60
Cleanliness unsatisfactory	41
Inadequate/defective W.C. accommodation	25
Premises requiring redecoration	34
Defective drainage	11
Unsatisfactory lighting	6
Unsatisfactory ventilation	6
Accumulations	10
Unsatisfactory facilities for washing equipment	18

Registration of Premises

Premises registered for the manufacture or sale of preserved food	9
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream	42
Itinerants registered for the sale of ice cream	13
Itinerants registered for the sale of other food.	9

Educational Activity

Educational activities took the form of visits to food premises and discussions with food handlers.

During the year publicity was focussed on manufacturers methods of date coding on perishable food stuffs. The Food Standards Committee reported on the date marking of food and recommended that new legislations be drafted to increase the protection of the consumer, to assist the retail trade and to aid the enforcement of the law in preventing the sale of stale food. It is envisaged that legislation will be brought into being requiring perishable foodstuffs to be open date marked, and other long life food coded in a prescribed form.

Food complaints

During the year 12 food complaints were received, eight were in relation to mould growth or staleness. Two prosecutions were taken resulting in total fines and costs of £25.25

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

It was not possible to carry out as many visits and inspections of food premises as one would have wished, due to sickness and shortage of staff, During the year it was necessary to exclude a food handler from work for 7 days, who's son was found to be suffering from sonnei dysentery,

Slaughterhouses

There remain two slaughterhouses operating in the district in which three full time Meat Inspectors are employed.

The number of animals slaughtered for sale for human consumption reached a total of 112,654 animals compared with 118,103 in 1971 and 106,258 in 1970. The reduced kill can be attributed to the closure of one slaughterhouse.

Meat Inspection 1972

Carcases Inspected and Condemned	Cattle Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed	18,758	1,020	1,944	53,904	37,028	-
Number not inspected	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

All diseases except T.B. and C. Bovis

Whole carcasses condemned	NIL	1	8	30	12	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8,580	356	20	10,207	2,420	-

T.B. Only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	62	-

Cysticerci

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>Lbs</u>
Meat at slaughterhouse	58	0	0
Meat at retail premises	-	-	4
Cooked meats	-	-	18
Fruit and Vegetables (fresh)	-	-	13
Frozen Foods	-	2	70
Other Foods	-	-	40
	58	3	33

Imported Foods Regulations 1968

These regulations lay down conditions which have to be complied with when food is imported into England and Wales.

Food to which these regulations apply is now being imported into the District.

The Regulations require that the food shall be in sealed containers and shall not be opened until it reaches its place of destination and that the food shall be fit for human consumption.

Containers usually arrive in the early hours of the morning or late evening.

Notification that imported food is to arrive in the District is received from the importing authority. However, as the importing authority is only aware

of the time of despatch to the inland authority, it is very difficult to

determine when food will arrive, consequently one has to rely on the food processor

to notify the Public Health Department when the food has arrived. As a large

amount of this imported food is meat which is perishable, it has meant that

Inspectors have to be on call to ensure that the meat can be inspected;

Inspectors often have to turn out in the early mornings or late evenings.

No. of Containers	Type of Imported Food	Quantity	Consignee
39	Quarters of beef	140 tons	City Meats, Sewardstone Road.
148) Sterilised Cream) Evaporated Milk) Cheddar Cheese) Butter	2,516 tons	Adams Butter, Sewardstone Road.
187		2,656 tons	

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

These regulations make provision for the hygienic construction, equipment and cleansing of premises where milk is processed, produced, handled or stored. There are three such premises within the district.

Milk Sampling

117 Samples of milk including 26 of raw milk were obtained within the District for examination. Details are given below:

<u>Examination</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Brucellosis	26	NIL
Tuberculosis	-	-
Antibiotics	14	1
Phosphatase Test (Adequate heat treatment)	83	2
Methylene Blue Test (Keeping quality)	83	2
U.H.T. Test (Adequate heat treatment)	6	-
Turbidity Test (Adequate heat treatment)	2	-

WATER

Under the provisions of the Public Health Act 1936 as amended by the Water Act 1945, local authorities have a duty to ensure that all parts of their district are supplied with wholesome water.

During the year 10 samples were taken for bacteriological examination by the Department. All were found to be satisfactory.

There are within the district 4429 dwellings of which 4400 are supplied from public water mains.

Of the 29 dwellings on private supplies, samples are taken to ensure that these remain satisfactory.

The Metropolitan Water Board supply the major part of the district and have reported on their supplies as follows:-

- 1) a). The supply was satisfactory both as to (i) quality, and (ii) quantity throughout 1972.
 - b). All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine; after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after the analytical results are found to be satisfactory. The quality control from these laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply, from the treatment works or well stations, from the distribution system, and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.
 - c). No houses were permanently supplied by standpipe.
 - d). No artificial fluoride is being added, and where the fluoride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.
- 2) a). The supply was derived from the following works and pumping stations:
- River Thames water from the Thames Valley group of stations, and Well water from Waltham Abbey Pumping Station.
- The supply to the Wake Arms area is derived from Coppermills Works. No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area. The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown on the attached sheets.
- b). On account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction the boards river and well water supplies are shown to be not plumbo-solvent. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from the material of water piping, particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also to lead.

SEE TABLES ATTACHED

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD - Water Examination Department

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS - YEARLY AVERAGE 1972

of water supplied to the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council

Source of Supply	BEFORE TREATMENT						AFTER TREATMENT					
	Number of Samples	Agar Plate Count per ml.		Coliform count		Escherichia Coli Count		Number of Samples	Agar Plate Count per ml.		Coliform Count.	E.Coli Count
		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent Samples negative in 100 ml	Count per 100 ml	Per cent samples negative in 100 ml	Count per 100 ml		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent samples negative in 100 ml	Per cent samples negative in 100 ml
Coppermills	994	32.2		41.65	17.2	61.89	2.6	255	9.4		100.0	100.0
River Thames-derived	3 087	42.3		41.94	10.2	56.76	4.0	3 491	10.0		99.85	99.97
Waltham Abbey	250	0.1	12	99.60	-	99.60	-	251	0.1	9	100.0	100.0

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD - WATER EXAMINATION DEPARTMENT

Average results of the Chemical Examination of the water supplied to the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council during 1972.

	Description of the Sample		
	Waltham Abbey	Coppermills	R. Thames Derived
Number of samples	4	52	364
Amoniacal Nitrogen	0.19	0.019	0.031
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.022	0.100	0.069
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.6	8.9	6.9
Oxygen abs. from KMnO_4 , 4 hrs. @ 27°C	0.50	1.36	1.06
Hardness (total) CaCO_3	278	309	274
Hardness (non carbonate) CaCO_3	58	96	82
Magnesium as Mg	22.0	6.0	5.0
Sodium as Na		34.6	24.5
Potassium as K		7.3	5.5
Chloride as Cl	25	50	35
Phosphate as PO_4		4.0	2.8
Silicate as SiO_2		10	10
Sulphate as SO_4		72	58
Natural Fluoride as F	0.43	0.17	0.15
Surface-active material as Manoxol OT		0.02	0.02
Turbidity Units	0.2	0.1	0.1
Colour (Burgess units)	9	14	13
pH value	7.5	7.9	7.9
Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)	550	680	570

Swimming Pools

Routine bacteriological checks and inspections were made of the Public Swimming Pool situated at Roundhills and Warlies Private Swimming Pool. No further complaints of persons suffering from veruca have been received during the past year.

POLLUTION

Air Pollution

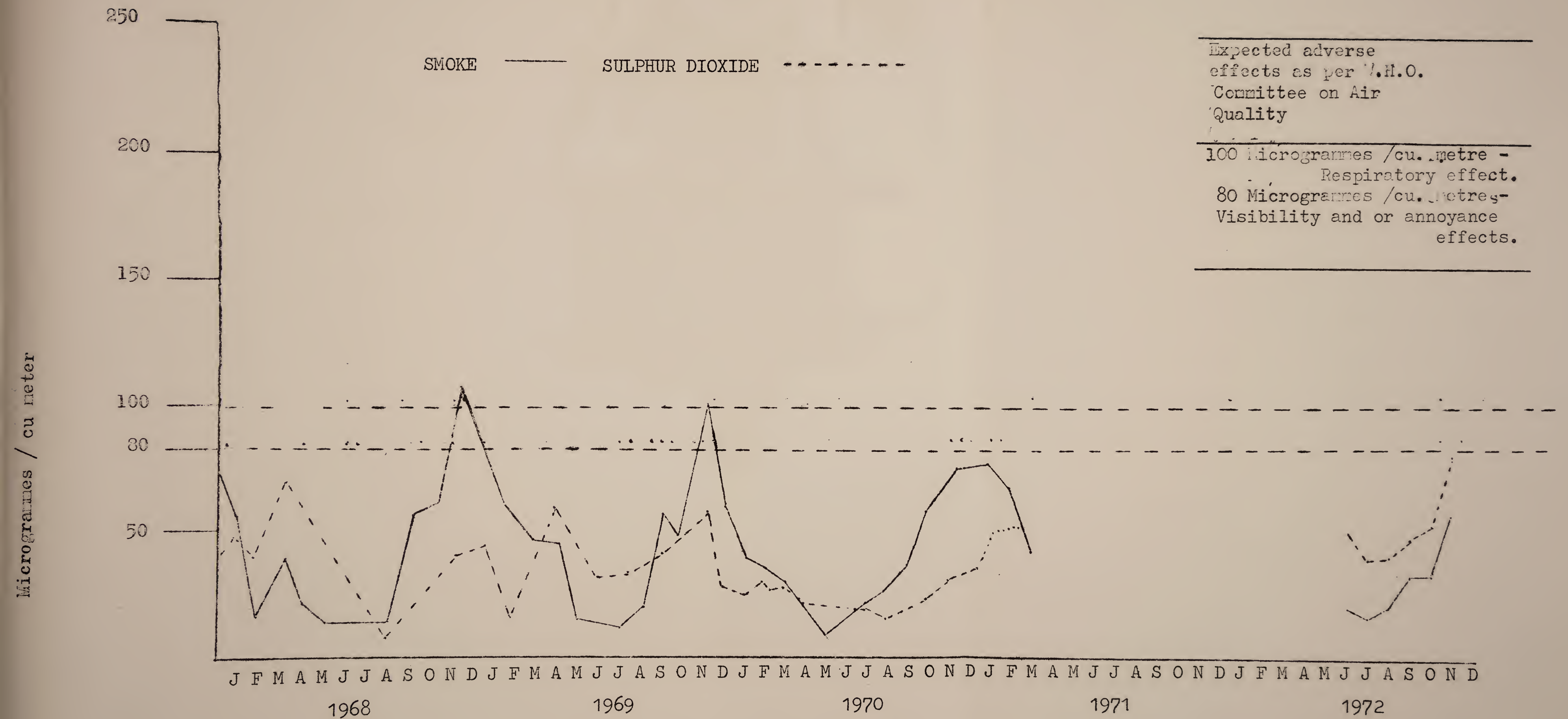
a). Domestic

Since the inception of the Clean Air Act 1956, most local authorities, including Waltham Abbey, have established Smoke Control Areas. To date Waltham Abbey have four Smoke Control Orders in operation, covering a total area of 299 acres and 930 premises. Applications for conversion of fireplaces with the No. 5 & 6 Smoke Control are being received. These areas come into operation in July 1973. Towards the end of the year survey work also commenced on the No 7 Smoke Control Area, which it is hoped will come into operation on the 1st August 1973. It is envisaged that the whole of Waltham Abbey will become smokeless by 1973.

b). Industrial

Complaints continued to be received during the year regarding two wood waste incinerators and odour from a chemical plant. Works have now been completed on one incinerator, the remaining incinerator has now been taken out of use. Remedial works are now in progress regarding the emission of fumes from the chemical plant and it is to be hoped that all works will be completed by the end of 1973. A hospital within the area has now successfully converted their boiler from hand firing to chain grate stokers which has resulted in reduced pollution from this plant. Three applications for the erection of chimneys under the provision of Section 8 of the Clean Air Act 1968 were received. In two cases alterations were required before subsequent approval was given.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - MONITORING PROGRAMME



Noise Pollution

During the year 17 complaints were received 10 relating to noise being emitted from industrial premises situated in close proximity to dwellings eight informal notices were served on owners where complaints were found to be valid. However, probably the most annoying form of noise in the U.K. is vehicle noise. Indeed residents in the Improvement Area, in which there is a one way traffic system operating are continuously complaining of the noise and fumes from the traffic. It is intended to eventually divert this traffic out of the area.

It would appear that greater emphasis must be placed on
a). Trying to reduce the noise produced from traffic or
b). Restricting traffic in residential areas.

the Department of Environment have stated that further research is being carried out to reduce noise levels from traffic. There is also a need for better standards to be adopted to control noise levels on our existing and proposed roads. The proposal that a person will not be able to claim compensation if a new feeder road or motorway passes his house under the Land Compensation Act, unless the noise level exceed 70 dba on the L10 index is rather high. Surely one must take into consideration existing ambient noise levels and assess what the effects of any proposals will be on the residents of that area and where possible ensure that noise levels do not increase by more than a reasonable amount.

Noise can often be avoided by a little forethought, if industrialist or others who are likely to increase a noise by installation of new plant sought the advice of this department they may well save themselves a great deal of inconvenience and expenditure in the long term.

Legislation is now being considered to enable local authorities to declare areas noise control zones. The idea being that it would be an offence to increase noise above the ambient noise levels existing within that area. This would help to safeguard predominantly residential areas from the insidious growth of noise.

The planning department is taking note of recommendation made by the Public Health Department and inserting condition in the planning approval prohibiting factories situated in noise sensitive areas exceeding stipulated levels.

Land Pollution

Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act

This act has two main features.

- a). It makes it an offence to deposit on land any poisonous, noxious or polluting waste in such circumstances as to give rise to an environmental hazard to persons or animals, or pollution to any water supply.
- b). It requires persons wishing to dispose of any poisonous waste to notify local authorities and river authorities and to give details of the nature and quantities of such wastes to be disposed of or deposited within their area.

During the year the following notifications were received of such wastes being disposed of from firms situated within this area.

Name of Company	Nature & Quantity of waste to be disposed of	Place of Disposal
Pan Britannica	14,400 gallons Caustic Sludge	Land Reclamation Co. Pitsea Essex
" "	4,800 gallons Xylene washings	" " " "
" "	77 cu yards Dry Sweepings & Cleanings containing residues pesticides & fertilizer ingredients	Land Reclamation Co Pitsea Essex
T.C. & C.J. Rose Motor Co.	400 gallons Waste oil	Southern Economy Fuels Ltd, Stanstead Abbots, Essex.
Catalin Ltd	1,600 gallons. Melamine Waste sludge	Land Reclamation Co., Pitsea Essex.
Adams Butter	100 gallons. Waste oil	Southern Economy Fuels Ltd, Stanstead Abbots..
Datum Screw Co	1,500 gallons Waste Oil	Land Reclamation Co, Pitsea, Essex.

Disposal of Sewage Sludge - Galley Hill

During the past few years large quantities of sewage sludge have been deposited on an area of agricultural land covering some 100 acres. Concern has been expressed to both the Company depositing the material and also to the Greater London Council who were the authority from where the Contractor received the material.

Analysis of soil and grass samples taken from the land in question showed that the zinc equivalents were much greater than the levels recommended by the Agricultural Development Advisory Service of the Ministry of Agriculture. In addition toxic metals such as cadmium, lead and mercury were found in both the herbage and the soil. The cadmium levels in the soil were very high.

A soil and fertiliser consultant was engaged by the Council to look into the question of whether in fact the deposits could be classified as an agricultural activity, he advised the Council that in his opinion the deposit of this type of sewage sludge in such large quantities (4 to 12 inches deep) could not be considered to be a valid agricultural activity, and therefore an enforcement order under the Town and Country Planning Act was served upon the owner of the land requiring him to discontinue depositing the sewage sludge and to reinstate the land.

During this period the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act came into being and the question now arose as to whether the GLC should notify the Council before allowing further deposits of sewage sludge onto the land.

Consultations are taking place with the Ministry of Agriculture. The Department of Health and Social Security the Department of the Environment and the G.L.C. to try to determine satisfactory rates of application of this type of sewage sludge which will be satisfactory from the agricultural point of view and also will not give rise to an environmental hazard.

Attempts have been made to determine acceptable levels of intake of cadmium. The World Health Organisation have recommended that the total daily intake of cadmium should not exceed 1 microgramme per kg of body weight per day.

A careful watch will have to be maintained to ensure that any food crops grown in the Galley Hill area do not take up excessive quantities of cadmium or other toxic metals which may be harmful to the health of animals or man.

Rats and Mice

The prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 places an obligation on any occupier of land and premises to notify the Local Authority of any rodent infestation and to destroy it.

A pest control service is provided by this Council and is undertaken as a public health function by trained staff. Householders are given a free service and business premises are charged a small fee. Contracts are entered into either for individual treatments of an infestation or, on an annual basis for periodic inspections and treatments. The annual contract offers a more efficient service and enables the Rodent Operative to carry out treatments before the rodent population becomes a public health nuisance, as well as a financial liability to the occupier of the premises concerned. The number of infestations by rats and mice during 1972 was similar to 1971.

Despite publicity in the local press regarding notification of pests there were still 40% of premises found to be infested where notifications were ~~not~~ received. It would appear therefore, that the only way to ensure rat and mice infestations are kept down is by regular inspection and checking of premises. The following table shows the number of premises inspected and found to be infested.

		<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u>	
		<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1)	No. of properties in District	5,578	140
2)	a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	774	5
	b) Number found to be infested		
	i) Rats	93	4
	ii) Mice	54	1
3)	a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1,491	122
	b) Number infested by		
	i) Rats	61	51
	ii) Mice	33	9

- Pigeons

Pigeon trapping took place during the year resulting in some 200 birds being caught, which has reduced the ferral pigeon nuisance quite considerably.

Wasps

During the summer and autumn 16 complaints were received and dealt with. Although control of these pests are the responsibility of householders, a free service is operated by this department.

Other Treatments

Fumigation and spraying treatments were carried out in relation to 41 other infestations relating mainly to ants and dog and cat fleas.

SAFETY HEALTH AND WELFARE

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963

This Act is designed to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in offices, shops, wholesale departments, warehouses, catering establishments and similar premises.

At the end of the year 23 offices, 46 retail shops, 6 wholesale departments, and warehouses, 14 catering establishments and canteens were registered,

The total number of employed persons were 196 males and 340 females. 95 inspections were carried out during the year as a result of which 57 informal notices were served.

4 Non fatal accidents were reported.

Analysis of Contravention

Cleanliness	24	Premises not registered	7
Temperature	6	Defective floors	24
Lighting	10	Absence of first aid	27
Ventilation	1	Seating facilities	-
Sanitary Conveniences	5	Abstracts of Act	21
Washing Facilities	17	Eating Facilities	3
Clothing Accommodation	6	Fencing exposed mach.	5

Factories Act 1961

Local authorities are responsible for ensuring satisfactory conditions in relation to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary convenience in respect of non-mechanical factories and in respect of sanitary convenience where mechanical power is used. There are 85 factories and 2 slaughterhouses in the factory register. 15 inspections were made resulting in 2 informal notices being served.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act 1961

- 1). Inspection for purposes as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1). Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	NIL	-	-	-
11) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	85	15	2	-
111) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	NIL	-	-	-
TOTAL	85	15	2	-

2). Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found		to H.L. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)			
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
Insufficient Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	-	1	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	1	-

Outwork - (Sections 133 and 134)

	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (2)	No. of Cases of default in sending list to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply list (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	prose- cutions (7)
Wearing Apparel Making etc	3	-	-	-	-	-
No other outwork is carried out in the district	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

Agriculture Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act

Local Authorities are responsible for administering the provisions of the above Act in relation to the provisions of adequate sanitary accommodation for persons working in these premises.

During the year 5 inspections were made of premises no informal notices were served.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

This Act is designed to ensure satisfactory conditions for cats and dogs and to prevent as far as possible, any spread of infection. All premises in which such animals are boarded are required to be licensed annually. During the year 7 premises were licensed and 29 inspections were made, resulting in 4 informal notices being served.

Pet Animals Act 1951

Pet shops are required to be licensed under the provisions of the above Act. The Act is designed to ensure that animals are kept under humane conditions, to regulate the age of animals sold and also to prevent spread of infection. One such shop is registered within the district.

Disease of Animals, Waste Foods Order 1957

Premises where plant and equipment are used for boiling waste food intended for animal feed can provide a link in the spread of animal disease. Premises are required to be licensed annually, providing that such plant operates satisfactorily. 3 premises were licensed during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The major part of the sewage in the Urban District is conveyed by pumping and gravity through a sewerage system, terminating at the Greater London Council pumping station at Brooker Road, from whence it is pumped out of the district to Deephams Sewage Disposal Works.

During 1972 a scheme to sewer the High Beech area was commenced. Phase I and 2 involving sewerage Manor Road to Wellington Hill and Nott Street area was completed. A third phase of sewerage Lippets Hill, which will include providing a pumping station and also possibly enlarging existing pumps at the Royal Oak Pumping Station should be completed during 1973.

Public Conveniences

Public conveniences are provided at the Kings Oak, High Beech; Larsons Recreation Ground in Farnhill Road, and in the Greenyard adjacent to the Town Hall. A new convenience is under construction to serve the Upshire area and it is hoped to erect two further public conveniences one in the vicinity of the Volunteer and the other off the Town centre Distributor Road to replace the present Town Hall conveniences. Considerable damage occurs to these conveniences due to vandalism, If the public were to report persons who they observe causing damage to these facilities provided for their use, the service would obviously improve.

Refuse collection and disposal

The plastic sack refuse disposal scheme has now been extended to cover all domestic properties within the District .

The disposal of refuse to the G.L.C. incinerator at Edmonton has proved very satisfactory and is to continue.

MISCELLANEOUS

Xa). Petroleum Consolidated Provisions Act 1926-33

The petroleum Regulations Act 1928 and 1936 give power to the Local Authority to ensure the safety of the general public from hazards in connection with petroleum. 48 visits were made to petroleum installations and advice given on methods of construction and installation, the rendering safe of dis-used storage tanks and the delivery handling and sale of petroleum. Testing of all alterations and new installations was carried out and in all cases the results were satisfactory.

Although the Home Office give guidance to the Local Authority the ultimate responsibility for establishing satisfactory conditions in respect of petroleum installations, and their enforcements, lies with this Council. There were 28 licensed premises at the end of the year.

Xb) Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

It is the duty of the Local Authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on the business of Scrap Metal Dealers. There are now three dealers registered in the district who are required to maintain records of dealings.

